

Before the
Postal Regulatory Commission
Washington DC 20268-0001

Comment to response of the United States
Postal Service To Order No. 1366

Docket No. MC2012-26

Shipping Plus Business Center

We are a small independent business offering UPS, FedEx shipping and private mailbox rental. The Post Office has already placed restraints on our business which gives it an unfair advantage over our private mailbox rental.

Those requirements include:

- When a customer closes a mailbox with our store they can not file a change of address form with the Post Office as everyone else in the United States can do.
- We are required to put forwarding postage on all mail received for a six month period after the mailbox is closed. Customers can not get the same free forwarding service offered to Post Office Box customers.
- Our mailbox customers must have their mail addressed as #_____ or PMB _____ so that people doing business with them know that this is not their physical address. This was proposed by the Post Office during the CMRA regulations to deter fraud and was put in place for consumer protection. Now, the Post Office is proposing that a person renting a Post Office Box will be able to use the street address implying that it is their physical address.
- The Post Office has the authority to take away our ability to rent private mailboxes if we accept mail not addressed correctly using #_____ or PMB_____.
- One of the main services that we offer over the Post Office is the ability to accept packages from private carriers for our customers. With the new proposals they will be able to receive packages but they will also incur additional costs. They will have to sort shipments, set the packages aside in a secure area and retrieve them when the customer comes to get them.

The USPS has also stated that they would like to go to a 5 day mail delivery service and that anyone renting a Post Office Box would be able to receive mail on the 6th day. This also gives them an unfair advantage over our service.

It is unreasonable to ask a small business like ours to compete with a semi government agency that regulates our business and gives itself the advantage. Please recommend that the Post Office cease with its enhancements as soon as possible.

Jeanette Bateman, Owner
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